

012 to center Nov 2005

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-47 (canceled).

48. (Currently amended) A process for preparing crystallized mirtazapine comprising the steps of:

- i) dissolving mirtazapine in an organic solvent, thereby forming a solution;
- ii) adding water to the solution; and
- iii) precipitating mirtazapine;

wherein the organic solvent is ethanol; and

wherein the yield of crystallized mirtazapine is about 90% or greater than 90%.

49. (Previously presented) The process of claim 48, wherein the yield is greater than 90%.

50. (Currently amended) The process of claim 48, wherein the yield is about 95% or greater than 95%.

51. (Previously presented) The process of claim 48, wherein the yield is greater than 95%.

52. (Previously presented) The process of claim 48, wherein the drying conditions comprise elevated temperature and reduced pressure.

53. (Previously presented) The process of claim 52, wherein the elevated temperature is about the reflux temperature of the organic solvent.

54. (Previously presented) The process of claim 48, wherein the dissolving step comprises refluxing the organic solvent.

55. (Previously presented) The process of claim 48, wherein the adding step comprises adding water dropwise to the solution.

56. (Previously presented) The process of claim 48, wherein the precipitating step comprises cooling the solution to about 10 °C.

57. (Previously presented) The process of claim 48,  
wherein the dissolving step comprises refluxing the organic solvent;  
wherein the adding step comprises adding water dropwise to the solution;  
wherein the precipitating step comprises cooling the solution to about 10 °C; and  
wherein the drying conditions comprise heating the precipitated mirtazapine to the reflux temperature of the organic solvent under reduced pressure.